

International Seed Federation

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European Patent Office - Isar building
Attn. Enlarged Board of Appeal Directorate, Mr. Wolfgang Roepstorff
Erhardtstr. 27
80469 Munich
Germany

Ref: Two pending cases before the Enlarged Board of Appeal

Dear Mr. Roepstorff,

On behalf of the International Seed Federation we would like to draw your attention to two pending cases before the Enlarged Board of Appeal, which are G 2/07 and G 1/08. In your communication of 7 Aug. 2008 we understand that these two cases shall be treated together.

The handling of these two cases has effectively placed decisions in many other cases relating to plant related inventions on hold in examination or opposition / appeal. This delay interferes with the necessary legal certainty that is needed for the seed industry.

We therefore urge you to give your full attention to these two pending cases G 2/07 and G 1/08 and move the handling of these two cases on a 'fast-track' procedure. We sincerely hope you will be able to reach a final decision on these two cases as early as possible, so that other cases can be dealt with subsequently.

Yours sincerely

Marcel Bruins

Secretary General